Serial No. 10/036,790   Attorney Docket No. PF02259NA
Amdt. dated October 20, 2005
Reply to Office Action of August 16, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for a data network system for forwarding a

communication message intended for a target device to another device, the method comprising

the steps of:

receiving a communication message from an originating device;

retrieving configuration information and presence information of the target device, the

configuration information including a forwarding list identifying at least one next device;

determining whether the target device is available for text messaging with the originating

device based on the configuration data and the presence information;

routing the communication message to the target device if the target device is available

for text messaging with the originating device; and

forwarding the communication message to a particular next device of the at least one next

device if the target device is unavailable for text messaging with the originating device.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of configuring the

configuration data of the target device before the step of receiving the communication message

from the originating device.

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3.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of

retrieving status information of at least one of the originating device and the target device,

wherein the step of determining whether the target device is available for text messaging includes

the step of comparing the status information against the configuration data to determine whether

the target device is available for text messaging.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the status information includes a

location of the target device.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of determining

whether the originating device is present on the forwarding list.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of identifying the

particular next device as having a highest priority among the at least one next device of the

forwarding list.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

determining that the particular next device is not available to receive the communication

message; and

selecting another next device of the at least one next device.

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8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of

forwarding the communication message to the another next device, instead of the particular next

device, if the another next device is available for text messaging with the originating device.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the forwarding list identifies next

devices in order of priority as pre-configured for the target device.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the forwarding list identifies next

devices in order of priority based on a proximity of the next devices relative to one of either the

originating device and the target device.

11.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of

~~configuring the messaging proxy to prohibit~~ prohibiting, by the originating device, forwarding of

messages, received from the originating device, to other devices.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving

authorization from the originating device before forwarding the communication message to the

particular next device.

13.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of

identifying a mark, by the originating device, in the communication message indicating that the

communication message may not be forwarded to other devices.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving
authorization from the particular next device before the target device adds the particular next
device to the forwarding list.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of modifying the
communication message before forwarding the communication message to the particular next
device.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the communication message is
modified to prevent the communication message from divulging an identity of the originating
device to the particular next device.

17.   (Currently Amended) A data network system for forwarding a select message

communicated by a mobile station to at least one other mobile station, the data network system

comprising:

a messaging server for communicating with a plurality of devices, the messaging server

being capable of routing a communication message from an originating device to a target device;

and

a messaging proxy coupled to the messaging server, the messaging proxy having access to

a database that includes a forwarding list of the target device that identifies at least one next

device, the messaging proxy being effective to determine whether the target device is available

for text messaging with the originating device based on configuration data and presence

information of the target device, route the communication message to the target device if the

target device is available for text messaging with the originating device, and forward the

communication message to a particular next device of the at least one next device if the target

device is unavailable for text messaging with the originating device.

18.   (Original) The data network system of claim 17, wherein the messaging proxy is

incorporated within the messaging server.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the database is stored in the

messaging server.

20.   (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the database is stored in the

messaging proxy.

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21.   (Original) The data network system of claim 17, wherein the messaging proxy

determines that the originating device allows forwarding of messages.

22.   (Original) The data network system of claim 17, wherein the messaging proxy

selects a next user from the forwarding list until an available next user is found.

23.   (Original) The data network system of claim 17, wherein the forwarding list

identifies next devices in order of priority as pre-configured for the target device.

24.   (Original) The data network system of claim 17, wherein the forwarding list

identifies next devices in order of priority based on a proximity of the next devices relative to one

of either the originating device and the target device.